

**IN THE 43rd CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI
CALDWELL, CLINTON, DAVIESS, DEKALB AND LIVINGSTON COUNTIES**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

In Re: SUSPENSION OF CIVIL JURY TRIALS

ORDER

WHEREAS, in response to the declaration of national and state emergencies following the classification of COVID-19 as a pandemic, this Court, and the Supreme Court of Missouri, have entered several orders directing the operation of court proceedings during the crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Missouri issued its Order and Operational Directives dated July 24, 2020, effective August 1, 2020. The Order provides the Missouri Judicial Circuits with Operational Directives governing a plan for normalization of court operations and supersedes all previous orders; and

WHEREAS, it remains the sincere desire of the Court to continue to conduct important and most often essential court operations and meet all constitutional obligations to the citizens of our community while at the same time taking all reasonable measures to protect the health and safety of court employees, attorneys, parties and citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Court take steps to protect the health and safety of the 43rd Judicial Circuit, all judicial officers, all employees, all parties with business before the Court, and all members of the general public; and

WHEREAS, among other means, the COVID-19 virus spreads between people who are in close contact with one another, through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, or persons touch objects or surfaces on which the virus was previously deposited;

WHEREFORE, the Presiding Judge hereby enters the following Order:

The Circuit Clerks of Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, and Livingston Counties are ordered and authorized to suspend summoning and impaneling all petit jurors for civil jury trials scheduled to be heard through December 31, 2020. All civil jury trials scheduled to be heard in the 43rd Judicial Circuit through December 31, 2020, are hereby cancelled, continued and will be rescheduled to a later date by the Judicial Officer presiding over said case.

This Administrative Order shall remain in effect until rescinded or superseded by subsequent Order of the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

August 19, 2020



R. Brent Elliott
Presiding Judge
43rd Circuit Court of the State of Missouri